



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS  
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431

FOUNDER  
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio  
Mr. Vito Cannella  
Ms. Rita Hall  
Mr. John A. Hammargren  
Mr. Carl E. Moore

### **MINUTES OF THE** **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **JANUARY 31, 2007**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

#### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Present**

Chair Eleanor R. Montano  
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos  
Frank Bacio  
Vito Cannella  
Rita Hall  
John A. Hammargren  
Carl E. Moore

##### **Others Present**

Sandra Barbee, Chief, Commission Services Division  
Audra Galang, Staff, Commission Services Division

#### **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 24, 2007 MINUTES OF QUARTERLY ROUNDTABLE MEETING**

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Bacio, and unanimously carried, the minutes of January 24, 2007 were approved with the following corrections:

**On Page 2, ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION Probation Department Success of minors: one minor (Reyes) was ~~terminated~~ transferred .....**

**On Page 3, Department of Mental Health .... and Co@mmunity ....**

### **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT**

The Commission was very impressed with the Annual Report and suggested the following corrections:

**Page 2, Duties** – last paragraph The Sybil Brand Commission visits ..... and **each** Correctional facility ~~facility~~ **facilities** ...

#### **Page 3, Reports**

✚ Conducted annual inspection **inspections** of 255 facilities.

✚ Chair Eleanor R. Montano, **ADD: Vice Chair Helen Stathatos**, and ...

#### **Page 4, Reports**

✚ August 24, 2006, ...**(attendees should be rearranged according to ranks)** ....met with the Commission and discussed, commented and suggested that the **Compton and Long Beach Courthouses** provisions for clean, ....

#### **Page 5, Donations, second paragraph, ADD**

❖ Paul Higa Scholarship Fund, \$250

❖ **DELETE** Sheriff's Deputy from Long Beach Sheriff's Station, who was killed in the line of duty - \$100

**Page 6, Goals for 2007** In our continuing effort to monitor and ensure the effective and economical administration, cleanliness, discipline and comfort of inmates and the care of group home clients **ADD: and following the legacy of late Mrs. Sybil Brand**, the Commission has identified the following goals for 2007:

✚ Development of ...**(ADD at the last sentence) .., the Commission works collaboratively with other agencies and act as a resource.**

Ms. Barbee explained that the Commission should have a County Trust Fund and suggested the Commission put on hold all financial donations for the time being.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Montano reported that Mrs. Cragin requested that the Commission donate to the American Cancer Society in memory of her late spouse, James Cragin.

Vice Chair Stathatos reported that she attended last Sundays service at West Angeles Church of God in Christ. She was very impressed with their excellent service and encouraged everyone to attend.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$1,138.50.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Sandra Barbee, Chief of Commission Services Division, reported the following:

1. Ms. Barbee reported that Ms. Janice Davis, the new Head Board Specialist will be assigned to staff the Sybil Brand Commission. She came from Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

2. She e-mailed the Second District of the Board of Supervisor on the extension of term for the reappointment of Commissioner Carl Moore.
3. Staff sent to Ms. Angela Parks-Pyles copies of Jay Cee Dee Inspection Reports and the Corrective Action Plan given by Vice Chair Helen Stathatos.
4. Staff sent to Ms. Carla Carr a copy of the current Zenith Group Home Inspection Report.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chair Montano reported that she received a letter of denial from Vons dated January 26, 2007 on our request for a donation. Chair Montano requested staff to send a thank you letter to Vons. She also reported that St. Anne's sent another solicitation letter and received a letter from Boys Republic.

### **FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS**

#### **Drice Group Home – 30, #3**

Chair Montano visited this facility on January 22, 2007 and found no one was home. The facility was closed.

#### **Lakewood Sheriff's Station**

Commissioner Hammargren reported that he and Chair Montano visited this facility on January 18, 2007 and found an area of concern. The jail of the facility is understaffed and it has only four trustees. It has a color monitor with a DVR recorder. The facility is a \$16M project that has 445 lockers, nine computers in the report writing room, two bunk beds in each room, a \$50,000 gym, a briefing room and an OSS office.

#### **Children Youth and Family Services – 12, #1**

Commissioner Hammargren reported that Chair Montano and him visited this facility on January 23, 2007 and found the following areas of concern: emergency plan and phone numbers were not posted and more training on foster home care is needed. They were very impressed with the staff and the facility has an on-site school with the community going to that school.

#### **Turmont Home for Boys – 108, #1**

Commissioner Hammargren reported that he and Chair Montano visited this facility on January 30, 2007 and found the facility is well run and well organized. An area of concern Commissioners found that in contrast to DCFS standards, two clients came to the facility without any information. They had moved children to another foster home because of a marijuana issue.

#### **Zenith Youth Home – 114, #1**

Commissioner Hammargren reported that he and Chair Montano visited this facility on January 16, 2007 and found the following areas of concern: water damage in the hallway

from top to bottom; the whole house needs overall painting and cleaning; the bedrooms are messy and needs a new dresser and new mattresses; there is a need to fix one shower and the quick-release window bars. The Commissioners will return in 30 days.

**Michelle Travis, Inc. – 69, #3**

Chair Montano visited this facility on January 29, 2007 and found everything was in order except an area of concern: the activities daily schedule was not posted.

**Five Acres – 27, #2**

Vice Chair Stathatos visited this facility on January 16, 2007 and found it is the best facility in a very nice neighborhood. One area of concern: there is a need for order and neatness in the bedrooms.

**Five Acres – 27, #1**

Vice Chair Stathatos visited this facility on January 18, 2007 and found it is a nice home in a very pleasant neighborhood in Pasadena with all the required necessities. However, areas of concern: disorderly bedrooms need attention including its closets and drawers. Vice Chair Stathatos advised staff and the Assistant Executive Director, Regina Bette on this issue. The above is apparent in all three Five Acres Group Homes.

**Hillsides Boy's Home – 36, #3**

Vice Chair Stathatos visited this facility on January 22, 2007 and found no one was home. She returned on January 25, 2007 and found it is one of the very best homes. It was remodeled with the best materials like a granite top kitchen counter, redecorated and kept up attractively. She rated it **Excellent**.

**Hillsides Girl's Home – 36, #4**

Vice Chair Stathatos visited this facility on January 30, 2007 and found it was completely redecorated and refurbished by Hillsides Auxillary with help by the local AISD. It has been well-kept and has a 2-1/2 hour weekly staff meeting on treatment plan, educational needs, menu plans and activities staff training.

**Jay Cee Dee – 39, #1 and #2**

Vice Chair Stathatos visited these facilities on January 23, 2007 and found no one was home. She called Mattie Brown, no one answered but left messages for the second time with no reply. She reported that the property was marginally kept but does not appear occupied. At the Sybil Brand Commission's Quarterly Roundtable meeting on January 24, 2007, it was reported that the facility was in a "Do Not Refer List". She asked staff to give copies of the inspection reports with a corrective action plan to Ms. Angela Parks-Pyles of DCFS.

**Los Angeles County 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Jail Ward Hospital LCMC**

Commissioners Bacio and Hall visited this facility on January 18, 2007 and found areas of concern. It needs a vehicle preferably a van, wheelchairs and staffing, there are panic buttons only downstairs and one elevator should be restricted for Sheriff's use only. There

will be a new jail hospital during the fall season. CRDF females would like to have a female CRDF Deputy assigned to them.

#### **Century Regional Detention Facility**

Commissioners Bacio and Hall visited this facility on January 30, 2007 and found that the staffing is down 13% on deputies. It has a parenting program called, "*Teaching and Learning Kids*", and the other classes include cosmetology and tile setting. The children's families go to the school as well.

#### **Rights of Passage – 93, #1**

Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore visited this facility on January 23, 2007 and found the following areas of concern: low on snacks and perishables; reattach the smoke detector in bedroom No. 3; disaster drills not conducted nor documented since October 6, 2006; replace two burners on stove; and replace two plates. It does not have a menu posted but the menu is available in their book; and does not have life books but have posters on the walls.

#### **Star View Group Home – 101, #2**

Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore visited this well run facility on January 25, 2007 and found that it is a lockdown facility for difficult children. The children came from DCFS. There is a problem with Probation clients on AWOL and they requested DCFS to stop receiving them. Also, there was a young lady in the "quiet room" being monitored by staff.

#### **NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Montano shared inspection assignments with the Commissioners for the following week.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

#### **MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)**

There were none.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sandra Barbee*  
Chief, Commission Services Division